

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /024 W
-----241701Z 079262 /43
P 241515Z MAR 77
FM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7589

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FOL TELEGRAM SENT ACTION BRASILIA INFO RIO DE JANEIRO MARCH 21
BEING REPEATED FOR SECSTATE AS ACTION/INFO:

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OREP (RICHMOND, FREDERIC W.)
SUBJ: CODEL RICHMOND

1. FOR INCORPORATION IN EMBASSY'S REPORT ON CODEL, FOLLOWING IN
SUMMARY OF 10 HOURS IN LONDRINA AND SAO PAULO. CODEL ARRIVED ON
SCHEDULE IN LONDRINA AT 10:30 A.M. MARCH 18. IMPROMPTU PRESS
CONFERENCE WAS HELD OUTSIDE LONDRINA AIRPORT WITH CORRESPONDENTS OR
STRINGERS ALL MAJOR BRAZILIAN PAPERS AND NETWORKS. CONSUL GENERAL
INTERPRETED. CONGRESSMAN WAS MILD AND MEASURED IN HIS ANSWERS
TO QUESTIONS AND DID NOT ATTACK ICO, IBC, BRAZILIAN COFFEE STATISTICS
OR ENGAGE IN ANY OF THE POLEMICS REPORTED
IN PRESS ACCOUNTS OF HIS MEETINGS IN RIO. HELIO GUERREIRO,
ICB DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS IN NEW YORK, WHO WAS ACCOMPANYING
RICHMOND, LATER TOLD CONSUL GENERAL HE HAD CALLED CALAZANS IN
BRASILIA AND REPORTED THAT PRESS CONFERENCE HAD GONE WELL.
GUERREIRO FOUND NOTHING TO CRITICIZE IN PRESS CONFERENCE. FROM
AIRPORT, CONGRESSMAN PROCEEDED TO VISIT VARIOUS COFFEE FARMS AND
MADE A POINT OF STOPPING TO LOOK AT SOYBEANS, BOIAS FRIAS PICKING
COTTON, AND CORN FIELDS. LUNCHEDED AT COFFEE FAZENDA OF CACIQUE
SOLUBLE COFFEE COMPANY DIRECTOR. ALSO VISITED COFFEE RESEARCH
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WORK AT PARANA AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE (IAPAR) TO SEE FIRST HAND
WORK ON DEVELOPMENT OF UNIFORM FLOWERING AND COFFEE WHICH CAN BE
MACHINE HARVESTED. CONGRESSMAN EXPRESSED GREAT DOUBT THAT COFFEE
COULD EVER BE MACHINE HARVESTED OR THAT IT SHOULD BE BECAUSE IT
WOULD CAUSE UNEMPLOYMENT IN BRAZIL AND IN OTHER DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES, IF SUCCESSFUL. TIME DID NOT PERMIT VISIT TO SOLUBLE
COFFEE FACTORY AS CONGRESSMAN LINGERED AT VARIOUS FARM SITES GETTING

A PERSONAL FEEL FOR FARMING METHODS. FAS OFFICER WICKS PROVIDED CONGRESSMAN WITH DETAILED BRIEFINGS ON VARIOUS CROPS AT SITES VISITED AND WHILE RIDING IN STATION WAGON.

2. CODEL LEFT BY IBC PLANE FOR SAO PAULO SHORTLY AFTER 5 P.M., ARRIVING AT 7:05 P.M. PRESS CONFERENCE IN AIRPORT PRESS ROOM GOT UNDERWAY ABOUT 7:15 AND LASTED FOR JUST OVER AN HOUR. CONGRESSMAN COVERED ESSENTIALLY SAME POINTS AS IN RIO RETURNING TO FLOOR AND CEILING PRICES FOR GREEN COFFEE EX DOCK NEW YORK OF \$1.50 AND \$250 PER POUND WHICH HE HAD MENTIONED EARLIER IN LONDRINA. HE CLARIFIED THAT HE HAD NEVER THREATENED TO PARTICIPATE IN BOY-COTT. IN REPLY TO DIRECT QUESTION, HE SAID HE WOULD NOT ADVOCATE IT "YET". CONGRESSMAN PROCEEDED TO PULL OUT DETAILED DISTRIBUTION FIGURES FOR COFFEE FOR CROP YEARS 1976/77 AND 1977/78 WHICH HE SAID HE HAD OBTAINED FROM IBC PRESIDENT CALAZANS AND READ THEM IN DETAIL. WHEN QUESTIONED IN DETAIL ABOUT SOME OF THE FIGURES, NOTABLY THE 1977/78 PROJECTION OF ONLY 12 MILLION BAGS IN EXPORTS AND 6 MILLION IN CONSUMPTION AND WHERE SOLUBLE COFFEE EXPORTS FITTED INTO THIS PICTURE, CONGRESSMAN STUCK TO LINE THAT THESE WERE IBC FIGURES, NOT HIS ESTIMATES. HE DID ASSERT THAT FAS AND HE WERE IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE FIGURES, EXCEPT THAT FAS AND HE THOUGH THAT THE 1976/77 BRAZILIAN PRODUCTION FIGURES WERE SOME THREE MILLION BAGS HIGHER. HE WENT ON TO DISCUSS THE WORLD COFFEE SITUATION IN WHICH THERE WAS A TOTAL AVAILABILITY OF 92 MILLION BAGS WITH 60 MILLION AVAILABLE FOR EXPORT AND 16 MILLION FOR LOCAL CONSUMPTION IN PRODUCING COUNTRIES, LEAVING A CARRYOVER OF 16 MILLION BAGS. HE THOUGHT THE IBC WAS NOT FULLY AWARE OF ALL THE STOCKS IN PRIVATE HANDS IN BRAZIL AND THAT THERE WERE SUFFICIENT STOCKS WORLD WIDE. HE ASSERTED FAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AGREED WITH THIS POSITION. THERE WAS NO SHORTAGE AND NO REAL SURPLUS

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DEMAND AND SUPPLY WERE JUST ABOUT IN BALANCE AND THERE WAS NO NEED FOR PRESENT HIGH PRICES WHICH IN THE LONG TERM WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO PRODUCING COUNTRIES. HE REPEATED HIS DESIRE TO BE HELPFUL TO BRAZIL AND HIS HIGH REGARD FOR BRAZIL AS U.S.'S BEST FRIEND IN SOUTH AMERICA. USIS INTERPRETER DID EXCELLENT JOB UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES OF CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY.

3. REPORTERS' REACTION TO STATEMENTS WAS SKEPTICAL AND NOT OVERLY FRIENDLY. THEY WISHED TO CONTINUE, BUT CONGRESSMAN HAD TO BREAK OFF TO CATCH HIS PLANE.

4. FAS WICKS CONCURS.

5. PRESS PLAY IN O ESTADO WAS MINIMAL ON SATURDAY, WHILE FOLHA DE SAO PAULO, FOLHA DE LONDRINA, GAZETA MERCANTIL AND VEJA WERE ALL CRITICAL.

CHAPIN

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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SAS ID: 3007641
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL RICHMOND
TAGS: OREP, (RICHMOND, FREDERIC W)
To: STATE
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